Re-alignment of N.H.-31

373. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question 2355 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23rd December, 2004 and state:

(a) whether the 2nd revised cost estimate for re-alignment of N.H.-31 from Falakata to Pundibari in Cooch Behar West Bengal has been approved; and

(b) if so, by when the work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The 2nd Revised Cost Estimate amounting to Rs. 60529 crore had been sanctioned on 25th January 2006.

(b) The project comprises two packages. Package-I is for construction of major bridge across river Torsa and Package-ll is for construction of 22.89 km. long road including approaches to the Torsa Bridge and construction of seven minor bridges. The work is being implemented *by* the State Government. As per sanction of 2nd Revised Cost Estimate, the tender for Package-I was to be re-invited after rescinding the existing contract agreement with M/s National Project Construction Company Limited, by the State Government, due to slow progress of the work. As informed by the State Government, the matter is *sub judice* and fresh tender could not be floated. The contractor of Package-I' has been asked by the State Government for mobilization of all machinery.

Funds allocated for Golden Quadrilateral Project

374. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds allocated for the Golden Quadrilateral Project during the last two years, till date;

(b) whether Government have fixed any target under the said project during 2005-06 and 2006-07;